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Action

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Info

FROM: BONIN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1477, JANUARY 14, 4 PM

NIACT

EYES ONLY FOR SECRETARY FROM BRUCE

ADENAUER SENT FOR ME THIS MORNING. FONMIN ALSO PRESENT. HE SAID HAD JUST HELD CABINET MEETING, AND DISCUSSION LARGELY CONFINED TO DISCUSSION TEXT YOUR PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY.

I VERIFIED FACT HE HAD CORRECT TRANSCRIPT.

HE CONCENTRATED REMARKS ON THAT PORTION CONCERNING FREE ELECTIONS NOT BEING AN ABSOLUTELY EXCLUSIVE METHOD.

HE SAID REPERCUSSIONS IN GERMANY WOULD BE MOMENTOUS, AND DESTRUCTIVE OF HIS LONG ESTABLISHED POLICY THAT REUNIFICATION COULD ONLY BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FREE ELECTIONS. ALREADY MOST SPD AND FDP LEADERS HAD FAVORED CONVERSATIONS WITH PANKOW. THIS WAS FOR HIM INADMISSABLE, SINCE WHOLE LAST GERMANY WAS IN EFFECT ONLY AN EXTENSION OF SOVIET UNION, AND IDEA CONFEDERATION IN ANY FORM TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE. NOW THOSE NAIVE PEOPLE READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH PANKOW WOULD BE ENCOURAGED BY INTERPRETATION THAT WOULD GIVE IN THEIR OWN INTERESTS TO YOUR HAVING OPENED DOOR TO OTHER POSSIBLE METHODS BRING ABOUT REUNIFICATION.

I WOULD CHARACTERIZE HIS AND BRENTANO'S EXPRESSIONS AS BEING LITTLE SHORT OF VIOLENT. I TRIED TO ASSUAGE THEIR ALARM BY PLACING THE MATTER IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE BUT TO LITTLE AVAIL.

ADENAUER ASKED ME TO COMMUNICATE TO YOU URGENTLY HIS PRE- OCCUPATION, AND TO INQUIRE WHETHER YOU COULD NOT, IN RESPONSE TO A PLANTED QUESTION, ENTER INTO EXPLANATION AS TO WHY YOUR

PERMANENT

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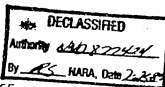
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JANUARY 14, 1959

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~~SECRET~~

-2-1477, JANUARY 14, 4 PM FROM BONN

RESPONSE IN THIS REGARD WAS THEORETICAL, AND DID NOT INDICATE ANY INTENTION OF CONSIDERING DEPARTURE FROM LONG ESTABLISHED POLICY. WHEN I SOUGHT CONSTRUCTIVE THOUGHT AS TO SUBSTANCE, THEY WERE UNPRODUCTIVE.

THEY ANTICIPATE SHORTLY VIOLENT CAMPAIGN AGAINST GOVT BASED ON ASSUMPTION U.S. READY TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE TO FREE ELECTIONS, INCLUDING ASSENT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN FEDREP AND PANKOW.

IF IT BE PRACTICABLE AND ADVISABLE TO TRY TO COMPLY WITH CHANCELLOR'S REQUEST, SUGGEST YOU MIGHT CONSIDER SOME SUCH LANGUAGE AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE THERE ARE VARIOUS THEORETICAL POSSIBILITIES FOR BRINGING ABOUT REUNIFICATION OF DIVIDED PORTIONS OF A FORMERLY UNITED COUNTRY. BUT, IN THE CASE OF GERMANY, SINCE SOVIETS HAVE INVARIABLY DENIED CITIZENS OF SO-CALLED GDR RIGHT TO EXPRESS THEIR WISHES IN A DEMOCRATIC MANNER, NO NEGOTIATIONS COULD SATISFACTORILY RESULT UNLESS THEY HAD AS A PREMISE THE ACCEPTANCE OF FREE ELECTION PROCEDURES IN BOTH PARTS OF GERMANY. UNQUOTE

CHANCELLOR SAID HE WAS MORE CONCERNED THAN EVER ABOUT OUTCOME CONVERSATIONS WITH MIKOYAN. ANY COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING THEM SHOULD BE DRAFTED WITH UTMOST CLARITY SO THAT MIKOYAN AND KHRUSHCHEV COULD NOT DISTORT CONTENTS TO SERVE THEIR OWN PURPOSES.

I AM FOLLOWING THIS IMMEDIATELY WITH ANOTHER TELEGRAM FOR LIMITED DISTRIBUTION, EXPRESSING CERTAIN GENERAL THOUGHTS ON GERMAN PROBLEMS.

BRUCE

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~~SECRET~~

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